

Pike County Press.

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NO. 22.

THE CRANK INVENTOR.

Now this title is not intended to apply to the inventor of the crank, for the crank, in mechanics, is an exceedingly useful appliance, while the crank to which your attention is now directed is of an entirely different order and seems to have been created for the same purpose as the New Jersey mosquito—to bore humanity.

The crank is generally long, lank and lean, with deep sunken eyes and wrinkled brow, long whiskers and unkempt hair, and a generally seely appearance, altogether indicative of overwork in an unprofitable business.

He approaches you on tip-toe and in a low squaky voice breaks the intelligence that he is an inventor and wishes to show you a model or explain one of his schemes for revolutionizing whatever may be in his line. Emboldened by your astonished look and patient manner, he rushes on at a rapid rate in his description, frequently clinching his assertions by, to others, unintelligible mathematical formulae and agricultural statistics.

If it is not the solution of the intricate problem of perpetual motion, the perfection of a flying-machine, or the building of a new-fangled collar-button, you may rest assured that what will be expounded will be something in the line of Naval Construction. The latter is a favorite hobby with erratic inventors and they invariably start business with an amount of knowledge about ships in general and war-vessels in particular that would eclipse the combined information and learning possessed by all the naval architects extant.

After many years of excruciating thought and the consumption of unmeasurable quantities of mid night oil, one has discovered that the thing needed to make our battle-ships invulnerable to the fire of the enemy's 12 inch guns, is to place a layer of cotton wadding, the ordinary seven cents for two bundles variety—back of the armor plates, thus giving them such an elasticity that, on striking, the projectile will simply rebound as does a billiard ball when it strikes the cushion. Another would accomplish like results by setting up the armor plates against rows of springs. This latter idea was possibly conceived during the rebound when this brilliant man in a moment of thoughtlessness sat down in an over-stuffed chair.

But marvelous as seems these suggestions they are "cast in the shade" by the invention of the genius who has rendered armor plate unnecessary by his wonderful, though at the same time exceedingly simple device. The problem of how to obviate the payment of more than \$166 per ton for armor is now solved. All that is necessary is to construct ships with a row of funnel-shaped openings along the sides, the openings being connected across the ship by pipes. The enemy's fire, no matter how destructive to ordinary ships, would prove harmless to one of this construction, for the projectiles, entering the funnels, would go clear through and drop out on the other side. But an important improvement on this idea is proposed, and may be patented—someday—that is to hang a basket on the funnel on the opposite side of the ship and thus save projectiles so that they may be thrown back at the enemy.

A suit invulnerable to rifle-balls was offered for the protection of the men behind the guns; the author of this life-saving device was informed that if he would, in order to demonstrate its utility, put on the suit and allow some of his friends to fire at him, the Department would, if he survived, be pleased to negotiate for the purchase of his patent. He has not been heard from, but is sincerely hoped that he did not undertake the test.

That man has not a complete monopoly of inventions for the destruction of our National foe is shown by the model of a war-ship submitted by one of the fair-sex. This unique device consists of an upper deck hinged in such a manner that when the enemy boards the vessel, the deck opens like two huge horizontal doors, drops the foe down into the hold and then closes up ready for another catch. Of course it might be interesting to know what to do with a whole ship load of fighting men below deck after you had had caught them, but we must not expect too much of any one inventor, so let others wrestle with that problem.

PERSONALS.

Ed Cahill and wife are again at Milford. The Misses Wheeler have arrived in Milford. Wm. Angle attended conference a day last week.

Howard and Pamela Reed are at the Anchorage. Lonzo Klime visited Blooming Grove last week.

Dr. De Plasse and family visited here over Sunday. Charles Brink of N. Y. is visiting his home this week.

Prof. Jacob Kleinhaus of Baltimore is here for Easter. George R. Bull is expected home the last of this week.

Mrs. Vyse and daughter are now domiciled at Brookside Villa. Dept. Sheriff Gregory lately went to the upper part of the county.

Lester Christian, of Hawley, is visiting his parents on Water St. W. H. Armstrong and wife are now at the Hotel Dewey in Washington.

Tom and Frank Whitney, of New York are guests at the Dimmick House. Hon. John A. Kipp, of New York, made a brief business trip in town Monday.

Wash. Padgett, of Mill Rift, visited here a few days with his sister Mrs. Ross B. Van Anken. Miss Bessie Van Eiten, of Larchmont Manor, arrived home Thursday for a few days vacation.

The county commissioners and their clerk visited the works of the Grotton Bridge Co. Horseheads, N. Y., this week. John D. C. Van Eiten and George Armstrong, of New York, will soon spend a few days in town and attend the wedding next week.

Mrs. Manning Weir and daughter, Mrs. Leonard Dufford, of Binghamton, N. Y., and Mrs. W. S. Youngs, of Port Jervis, are visiting their brothers Danham and George Gregory.

Robert Warner Reid and wife, of Brooklyn, are visiting the family of E. Warner on Broad St. and will remain several weeks. Mr. Reid has been in ill health for sometime and is now improving.

Republican Primary.

At the Republican primary last Saturday the vote was light only 73 being no opposition to the ticket. For representative Wm. Angle was nominated, for jury commissioner W. T. Struble, for delegate to the State convention J. H. Van Eiten, and for congressional conferee Alfred Marvin.

Township committeemen were elected as follows: Blooming Grove D. Hatton, Delaware J. W. Kisby, Dingman C. B. McCarty, Greensboro Sam Hopps, Lackawaxen W. C. Cortright, Milford Boro. J. C. Warner, Milford Twp. T. Nelson Patnyrs A. J. Kimble, Westfall Frank Harding.

Real Estate Transfers.

C. W. Bull and wife to B. E. Brown dated April 2, two lots on Broad St. con. \$800.

J. B. Westbrook and wife to Commonwealth 6 tracts Porter and Dingmans.

Geo. H. Wolf and others to Louis H. Smith dated Mch. 12 462 acres. Con. \$1500.

Chas. Chidester and wife to J. L. Burcher dated Mch. 1 150 acres Lackawaxen con. \$2.

Farm for Sale.

145 acres of which 80 is in forest; new ten room house, with range and rock cellar, water piped from never failing spring; commodious barn and stable; on the hills between Milford and Port Jervis; beautiful view of the Delaware Valley; value of standing timber \$1,300. Apply to The Pennsylvania Company, 517 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, or to J. H. Van Eiten, Milford, Penna. a20

List of Unclaimed Letters.

Remaining in the Post Office at Milford Pa for week ending April 14 Ladies—Mrs. Jacob Haas, Gents—Michael Murphy, Herbert W. Walker.

Persons claiming the above will please say "Advertised" and give date of this list.

CHARLES LATTIMORE, P. M.

Just Received.

Mammoth and medium clover seed. Red top, Kentucky and Canada blue grass, Orchard and Timothy seed at W. & G. Mitchell's.

BRIEF MENTION.

Benj. Kyte has traded his colt for another. Mrs. Albert Helms has been quite ill this week.

D. V. Drake suffered a stroke of paralysis Wednesday. M. B. Allen has been appointed Postmaster at Honesdale.

The stud season opened at Gloucester N. J. Tuesday and the catch was good. Julius Bornkan, of New York, has rented the McCarty house on lower Hartford street.

John V. Bragger, of Shickola died April 6th. His aged was about 70 years. Van Eiten Brothers are putting in phones at Mitchell Bros. store and Centre Square Hotel.

The Senate has agreed on April 24 as the day for taking the final vote on the Quay case. Try a patch of peas and oats this season and plant them now. Corn fodder is good but later.

Walter D. Wald has been reappointed by Judge Mabie official clerk to the Sussex Co. grand jury for one year. Judge Hemphill, of Chester county, has decided that no internal revenue stamp is necessary on transcripts from Justice's dockets.

The Boers are not doing as much trucking as formerly, and the British are up against several very stubborn snags in the way of Dutch troops. The Senate committee on privileges and elections has made a unanimous report against seating Senator Clark, of Montana, charged with bribery.

Dr. J. C. Price, of Branchville, has been appointed one of the Board of Examining Surgeons for Pensioners. The board meets every Wednesday at Washington, N. J.

Charles Cronk, said to be from Hawley, fell unconscious in New York from starvation Monday. He was too proud he said to beg, and could not obtain work.

The borough council Monday night levied a ten mill tax and placed the same tax on dogs as last year. If all the dogs in town pay their per capita we ought to roll in wealth, but do they?

A small barn, in rear of John Hisman's house on Broad street, burned at an early hour last Saturday morning. The insurance on building and contents was \$100. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

A letter from Dr. H. E. Emerson written aboard ship and mailed at San Domingo says the voyage out for a few days was tempestuous, and that at times fears were entertained that the trip might end in a downward direction.

Forest fires have been doing destructive work in the county for the past two weeks, the high winds and very dry weather fanning their spread. The Baum place in Dingman was burned over last week and the woods in Westfall have been in fire the past few days.

We publish this week a letter from Mrs. F. P. Sawyer, a daughter of our townsman H. B. Wells, which will afford both amusement and instruction. She is a native of Milford and her husband was for sometime a resident of the town and is now engaged in a prosperous business at Muscatine, Iowa.

Dr. J. T. Rothrock commissioner of Forestry was in town this week. He will plant on the state lands 1,300 Carolina poplars which are now here, and also expects to plant a number of Catalpas. These are rapid growers and if the climate and conditions are favorable will soon make timber for posts and light railroad ties. His experiment will be observed with considerable interest.

Grass and grain appear to be seriously injured by the cold wind and dry weather of the past three weeks. Another shortage in hay this season would be disastrous to farmers. The necessity for planting forage crops ought to be established by the experience of last year, and those having cattle would be wise to be provident in this respect. Do not take the chances.

The farmers Market Day at Lackawaxen was a howling success—for the Keystone Hotel. About 25 cattle were on exhibition but none were sold, though buyers were present. The only transfers of stock made were two or three pigs; the man man with the jack rabbits held them at a fancy price to tempt buyers, so he will continue to milk them during the season.

A LETTER FROM ROME, ITALY.

A letter received by a friend here from Miss Lillie M. Lewis, who is now traveling on the continent and passed the winter in sunny Italy, gives a very interesting account of her visit. She has been in Florence, Nice, Genoa and Rome, from which place she writes. In Genoa the shops are filled with gold and silver filigree work, and those of Florence and Nice are very beautiful also. From Genoa to Nice the railroad follows the sea and the scenery is most beautiful with the placid Mediterranean on one side and enormous rocks on the other which project out into it. At San Remo and Beaulieu the country is magnificent with palms and beautiful foliage. Near Florence is an old monastery where a delicious cordial, Chartreuse, is made and sold and the place abounded in Americans and English clamoring to buy bottles of various sizes, and trying to make themselves understood imperfect French or Italian. At Rome she visited St. Peter's and the church of the Capuchin monks where in the basement and are several rooms containing skeletons of dead monks dressed in their garments hanging on the walls and the whole place decorated with bones and skulls of every description. She also visited the prison where St. Peter and St. Paul were said to have been confined. After visiting Venice, Geneva and Paris she will with the family sail for home in the Patricia June 4th from Boulogne.

Additional Local Matter.

The borough received \$684. from liquor licenses. Rev. C. E. Sessler will preach in the M. E. Church Sunday.

Some correspondence is unavoidably crowded out this week. A. Q. Wallace calls attention to a complete line of fishermen supplies. "Outing" for April contains an article on Forest Preserves, by Gifford Pinchot.

It is reported that Dr. Thad Mead of Port Jervis is negotiating for the Dimmick House.

Dust on the streets has been unusual for the past two weeks and the wind has kept it moving.

Wm. T. Stanton a prominent citizen and merchant of Honesdale died last Friday aged about 55 years.

At the adjourned court yesterday the bond of the Erie in \$1000 to condemn land under the bridge crossing the abandoned canal, was approved.

The Republican county committee organized last evening by electing Dr. H. B. Reed chairman, Leroy Kipp secretary and Hon. William Mitchell treasurer.

Several members of Port Jervis Lodge F. & A. M. made a fraternal visit to Milford Lodge Wednesday evening. Dist. Deputy G. M. Baker of Honesdale also was present.

Rev. S. W. Mills D. D., of Port Jervis, celebrated the 80th anniversary of his birth April 5th. He was born in the town of Walkkill, near Scotchtown, in Orange county.

P. C. Ratan has opened his bicycle and repair shop on Hartford street, where may be found a good stock of wheels and sundries, and an experienced workman in charge to make necessary repairs.

The Democratic convention last week nominated P. Gray Meek, of Centre county, for Auditor General, Harry E. Grim, of Bucks, and N. M. Edwards, of Lycoming, for Congressman at large, and Howard Mutchler and J. D. Serfas were elected district delegates to the National Convention.

Following are some of the appointments recently made by the M. E. Conference at Newark, Milford C. E. Sessler; Matamoras, T. G. Spencer; Dingman's Ferry, E. H. Atwood; Cartwright Ave Jersey city, Rev. W. R. Neff; Princes Bay, C. W. Deming; Baritan, E. S. Jamison; Hainesville and Centreville, supply; Battville and Free Union, W. H. Burley; Port Jervis, W. A. Chadwick; Midvale, G. Whitehead.

Mrs. Jarley will give her wax works exhibition Brown's Hall next Monday night April 16th. A number of celebrities of the past and present will be wound up and displayed, and to enliven the show several singers from Port Jervis will assist local talent in furnishing a musical program. The event promises to afford much amusement and also to gratify the artistic taste. Be sure you have a ticket.

THE HOME OF THE TEXANS.

A VIVID AND WITTY DESCRIPTION.

Scenes and Sights in Old Mexico—Effects of Silver and Free Trade.

Under date of March 19th Mrs. Sawyer, who has been visiting the countries named with her husband, who went for the benefit of his health, wrote from San Antonio, Texas, the following very interesting letter, which will be perused with pleasure by PHOENIX readers.

The future of any state depends largely upon the integrity of its people. Texas has not only its progressive people, but is rich in cotton, fruit, land, cattle, and in fact most everything which serves to make a country and climate beautiful. Almost any tree in the world will grow in Texas. An endless variety of dainty wild flowers, cover its fields and surround the numerous mineral springs. These attractions make the place a desirable health resort.

Much of its population is colored, and Mexicans also abound, but there is much wealth of vigor and push about its people which the other southern states do not have.

The State is a little world in itself. It has been stated upon good authority that some points in Texas are as far from each other as its northern boundary is from the city of St. Paul.

The climate is delightful, though changeable and uncertain. The frequent northerns are looked upon by acclimated people as a tonic for the system. A cold wave here is greeted in the same way as a sun shower in the north. We feel it keenly because the homes here are not heated thoroughly as ours. The only indication of a stove I saw in Monterey, Mex., was standing in a large sitting room. It was two feet long, one foot high, with the end of the pipe through the window. When the wind blows from the side the window is on of course. You can choose between the cold and the smoke. The room was thirty feet long with very high ceilings. I heard a good local story which illustrates the weather very well.

"There was a man traveling through the State with a team of oxen. The weather was so intensely hot that one of them died, and while his owner was skinning it, the other ox froze to death." A touch of wet and dry weather was told us by a bright Mexican girl, while chatting with us on the way from Austin to San Antonio. "She knew a gentleman who persisted in wearing buckskin trousers. One day it rained and they stretched out so long that he cut them off several times. After while the sun appeared and they began to draw up and up and up, until they drew the poor gentleman away over into the next county."

We have been looking out for that man ever since we came here to prove the authenticity of the story, but have not been able to meet him yet. We conclude, however, that he must have been drawn over in the western part of the State instead of the next county for there is the cattle growing district.

In the eastern section about Dallas, Fort Worth and Austin, the land is fertile and seems to be well cultivated. Not only that but it is rich in oil, gas and coal. At Corsicana, the Standard Oil Co. have invested between \$400,000 and \$500,000 in oil wells and tanks and refineries. There were 68 tanks holding about 35,000 barrels each and reported as nearly all filled. There were over 500 wells in sight, giving the appearance of almost a forest with their towers.

About one hundred and fifty miles this side of the southern border of Texas the land becomes less valuable and finally fades into one vast wilderness of cactus shrubbery with very little water. This scenery is just the same from the Rio Grande until we approach Monterey, styled by some people the Chicago of Mexico. This city in no way compares with the City of Mexico, but affords a very correct idea of Mexican life. It is but one day's ride from San Antonio. There are wealthy people there, but from what we could see, the majority were poor, half clad and dirty. Many of their huts were smaller than their chicken coops. They seemed, however, very contented with their lot. As we were walking along the streets late in the afternoon, we could see them coming from all the street corners with a couple pounds of meat tied with a string. It looked as if they had lengthened the meat as much as possible to show to the passers by

they really had it. They hung a loop of the coarse string over their fingers and wended their way home. If we have any doubt as to our happiness, and comforts, we have but to glance at this class, who live in a free trade country, on a silver basis, and we will be perfectly satisfied with our lot.

The average day laborer receives about 30 cents a day in our money. Their silver dollar being worth 47 cents in our money. The appearance of the store fronts are inferior to any I ever saw. They seem to be nothing more than folding doors, taken off in the day time and put back at night. The stores like all residences are mostly of one story, built of native soft stone, covered with plaster and then painted to imitate brick or stone. Sometimes in very bright colors. There is a very old building, 400 years old, called the Bishops Palace, on the outskirts of the city, half way up the mountain. It was at this point where Taylor kept his troops when United States army invaded Mexico. Every building worth mentioning has its own private court. Many of these must be beautiful, but we only saw a few, with stolon glassess. There are a number of beautiful places in the city. Well kept, with fountains, deer and blooming flowers the year round. The place abounds in machine shops. The merchants carry some high class goods and many of the clerks could understand our language.

The cathedrals and club house are richly decorated, each one in its turn telling the story of poverty and wealth. Many of the streets are narrow with wooden pavements, although several of the more modern streets are paved with brick. The great cactus covered mountains, rising one above and behind the other, some of them partly hidden by the clouds, were indeed a novel sight, and added to the oriental phase of the place. Looking from one of the old narrow streets at this deep blue green for a back ground, and the gaudy house fronts with their barred windows projecting into the sidewalks, and the donkeys and the picturesque people would almost take us back to the days of Palestine.

The picture seemed but a reflection of those bygone days, when Christ was on earth, among his people in person. It was realistic to us that several times we could almost see Him on His mission of charity, among those poor people he so dearly loved. Much more might be told in detail of our sister country but will return to the old Texan city of San Antonio.

Its chief beauty to me is its bridges, nineteen in number. They span the San Antonio river at every turn, and appear when you least expect them, and all in the heart of this cosmopolitan city. There are in the city and vicinity, within the radius of ten miles, six old missions. Some of them were built by the Franciscan monks for the purpose of civilizing the Indians, with a view to the permanent occupancy of the State. Among them is the church of the Alamo, made famous by the bravery of the Texans, in 1836. This was "the battle of the Alamo" and to those who know of the Mexican war with Texas, consider it one of the bravest battles in the world's history. Less than two hundred Texans with Travis and Crockett for leaders resolved to face death within its walls rather than surrender to Santa Anna, who approached with 4,000 troops. The battle began at day light, March 3, 1836, and lasted until 9 a. m. The loss of the Mexicans were from 1,000 to 2,000 and it is probable that all the Texans were slain. This battle was well nigh the ruin of Mexico.

Mrs. F. P. SAWYER.

Camp for Sale.

A camp on the most beautiful of Pennsylvania Lakes, (Silver Lake, Pike Co.) with two acres and a house extending 40 ft. on deep shore, covered dock, sand bottom, broad piazza, one room below and two large rooms in the second story. Wood stove, oil cooking stoves, one row boat with two pairs of oars and sail; kitchen, table and chamber furniture complete. Immediately adjoining Edgemoor Club House. Apply to The Pennsylvania Company or to Dr. Persifer Frazer, 1042 Draxel Building, Philadelphia. a20

Philip B. Clark Esp., of Porter Twp. has been appointed general overseer of the lands in Pike county belonging to the State of Pennsylvania.

J. T. Rothrock, Commissioner of Forestry.

Ladies' shirt waists all styles and prices at T. Armstrong & Co's.

A Rich, New Englander Builds a City in the Woods.

Much has been said about Vanderbilt's great place down South, but it is left for a New Englander to go Vanderbilt "several better," Mr. James W. Tufts of Boston, Mass., the well known soda water apparatus manufacturer; went down to see what attracted so many Yankees to the Southern Pines, region. He saw there a town of fine hotels, handsome homes, beautiful farms and profitable vineyards, and inside of ten days after his arrival he had purchased six thousand acres of land near the town. He employed the best landscape engineers, laid the grounds out and then commenced a great work. Hundreds of carpenters and laborers were employed, building roads, parks, electric car lines, lakes, hotels, homes, deer parks, and in fact everything that money could build. This work has been kept up, until to-day this man has one of the most unique and handsome places in the world; with its opera house, restaurants, and everything to amuse and interest.

The best part of this work is that this big hearted man is not doing this solely for his own pleasure, but he is entertaining at about actual cost, hundreds of doctors, lawyers, ministers and teachers, who could not afford to pay high rates for rent of cottages and hotel charges. Mr. Tufts is in no way working this enterprise to make money; he sells no lands or lots. His great pleasure is to draw around him hundreds of Northern people from his native section during the winter months, and see them enjoy themselves and gain health at the same time.

What a happy world this would be, if there were more men like Mr. Tufts, who is constantly planning how he can add pleasure to some one else's life, besides himself and family. Pullman built his city for his own financial benefit, Vanderbilt bought his thousands of acres of Southern lands, and built his place for his own pleasure; but Mr. Tufts built his Southern city with its handsome hotels, comfortable boarding houses and scores of cottages for the pleasure of the people. In the final day of reckoning James W. Tufts, the wealthy New Englander, will loom up as a star of the greatest magnitude.

EASTER SOUVENIRS.

Two Remarkable Gifts Which Everybody Can Have for the Asking.

Everybody can have beautiful Easter lilies next Sunday without charge, for the great "Philadelphia Sunday Press" announces that every reader of the Easter number will receive free a splendid picture of Easter lilies. The picture is by a famous artist in ten colors and is 14x40 inches in size. It will not be creased by folding, so that every person who gets next Sunday's "Press" will get a perfect picture fit to adorn any home. And in addition to the picture there will be a finely illustrated booklet containing a remarkable love story—the kind you will also be free with Sunday's "Press." Announcement is made that the supply of pictures and books is limited, hence it will be well to send in your order early.

Italian News.

The guileless saffron papers of New York demonstrated their wonderful enterprise recently by printing under large headlines a tale of the flight of King Humbert to Corsica because of the declaration of an Italian Republic. It was published in an Italian paper as a first of April joke and the story swallowed in some New York offices and palmed off as a startling piece of news. If you see a thing in those papers it is so—maybe.

Trespass Notice.

The State of Pennsylvania having purchased of J. B. Westbrook and wife their lands in Dingman township (warrant numbers 194 and 188) and in Porter Twp. (warrant number 50, 37, 31 and 51) notice is hereby given that removal of timber or any other property is prohibited and that offenders will be prosecuted.

J. T. Rothrock, m4 Commissioner of Forestry.

T. Armstrong and Co. have just received a complete line of mens', wronens' and childrens' shoes, the finest ever brought in this town, which you are invited to call and inspect, with an assurance that any taste or desire as to shape, style and quality can be entirely gratified. rtf